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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/609,182	06/27/2003	Geoffrey T. Dunbar	302134.01	7663
22971	7590	08/29/2008		
MICROSOFT CORPORATION ONE MICROSOFT WAY REDMOND, WA 98052-6399			EXAMINER SHIBRU, HELEN	
			ART UNIT 2621	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 08/20/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

roks@microsoft.com

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### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/609,182

**Applicant(s)**

DUNBAR ET AL.

**Examiner**

HELEN SHIBRU

**Art Unit**

2621

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-65 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-23, 37 and 43-65 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 24-36 and 38-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-85/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/07/05 and 09/15/03
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Election/Restrictions***

1. Claims 6-23, 37, and 43-65 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected groups, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 06/05/2008. Claims 1-5, 24-36 and 38-42 are pending.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-5 recites the limitation "the capability" in lines 6-7. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-5, 24-36 and 38-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Faيمان (A Survey of the Java Media Framework 2.0).

Regarding claim 1, Faيمان discloses a method for determining the capabilities of a media system, the method comprising: querying each of one or more functional objects in the media system to determine a functional limit of each of the one or more objects for a predetermined function (see paragraphs 2.1.2, 2.3.2, 3.3, and 3.5.2); and determining which of the functional

limits of the one or more objects maximally limits the capability of the media system for the predetermined function (see paragraph 3.6).

Regarding claim 2, Faïman discloses the predetermined function is a maximum playback rate of a multimedia stream (see paragraphs 3.3).

Regarding claim 3, Faïman discloses determining a minimum of the maximum reported playback rates (see paragraphs 3.3 and 3.5.2).

Regarding claim 4, Faïman discloses determining a minimum and maximum playback rates in a set of modes including: reverse skip mode, reverse key frame mode, reverse full mode, forward full mode, forward key frame mode, forward skip mode (see paragraph 3.3).

Regarding claim 5, Faïman discloses the one or more functional objects include a media source object, a transform object, and a media sink object (see paragraph 2.3.2).

Regarding claim 24, Faïman discloses a multimedia system comprising: a control layer configured to receive one or more media data streams from an application (see fig. 5.1 and paragraph 3.2); and a core layer coupled to the control layer, the control layer including a media engine component configured to query each of one or more core layer components in the multimedia system to determine a functional rate limit of each core layer component for a predetermined function, the media engine configured to determine which of the functional limits of the core layer components maximally limits the multimedia system (see paragraphs 2.1.2, 2.3.2, 3.3, 3.5.2, 3.6, 4.1, and 4.2).

Regarding claim 25, Faïman discloses one or more media sources coupled to the control layer, the media sources configured as inputs to the multimedia system; one or more stream sources coupled to the control layer, the stream sources providing the media data streams; one or

more transforms coupled to the control layer, the transforms configured to operate on the media data streams; one or more media sinks coupled to the control layer, the media sinks configured to operate as outputs for the media data streams; and one or more stream sinks coupled to the control layer, the stream sinks configured to store or render the media data streams (see paragraphs 2.3.2, 2.1.2, 4.1-4.3, 4.6 and figure 5.2).

Regarding claim 26, Faiman discloses the control layer includes: the media engine; a topology loader configured to identify data flow; a media session configured to interface with core layer components; and a media processor configured to perform transforms on the media data streams (see paragraphs 2.2.2 and 4.1).

Regarding claim 27, Faiman discloses the media engine interacts with a plurality of components in the core layer and the control layer to provide rate changes and rates, the media engine configured to use floating point values to linearly indicate a speed of playback (see paragraphs 3.3 and 3.5.2).

Regarding claim 28, Faiman discloses a negative rate specifies a backward playback (see paragraph 3.3).

Regarding claim 29, Faiman discloses the core layer further includes a media source, the media source configured to provide a presentation timestamp for media samples on the media stream, the samples configured to preserve the presentation timestamp independent of a rate for media playback (see paragraphs 3.7-3.8).

Regarding claim 30, Faiman discloses the multimedia system further includes a presentation clock configured to run time according to a current rate, and the core layer further includes one or more media sinks coupled to the presentation clock, the media sinks configured

to display data according to the presentation clock and independent of non-presentation clock component timestamps (see paragraphs 3.3, 3.4 and 4.0).

Regarding claim 31, Faïman discloses the media engine is configured to respond to requests for rate direction changes by playing out any remaining content up to a timestamp of a direction change, discarding any data in a pipeline, setting a rate of playback and restarting playback (see paragraph 3.5.2).

Regarding claim 32, Faïman discloses data repeated after the restarting playback is discarded (see paragraph 3.5).

Regarding claim 33, Faïman the media engine is configured to be independent of tracking multiple playback rates unless the rates are within a same mode (see paragraphs 2.1.5 and 2.3.3).

Regarding claim 34, Faïman discloses one or more components in the core layer are configured to maintain a list of pending rate changes, each component having active only one rate at a time, each component configured to maintain a playback rate independent of tracking rate changes (see paragraphs 3.0-3.1).

Regarding claim 35, Faïman discloses the media engine is configured to support backward decoding for coder-decoders that do not support backward decoding, the media engine configured to perform forward decoding, and reverse any decoded samples (see paragraphs 3.2-3.4).

Regarding claim 36, Faïman discloses the reversed decoded samples are available for reuse (see paragraph 5.0).

Regarding claims 38-42, claims 38-42 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 1-5 above.

*Conclusion*

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HELEN SHIBRU whose telephone number is (571)272-7329. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, THAI Q. TRAN can be reached on (571) 272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/HELEN SHIBRU/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2621  
August 15, 2008

/Thai Tran/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621